

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



**FISCAL NOTE**

**SB 50 – HB 60**

February 25, 2019

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Requires the Department of Education (DOE) to create a three-year early learning pilot program, to begin in the 2019-20 school year and to conclude at the end of the 2021-22 school year, for the purpose of identifying early learning programs and models that provide opportunities for quality early childhood education and to improve student outcomes. Requires DOE to fund the pilot program through competitive grants with available pre-kindergarten funding, establish a grant application and award process, and to award such grants to no more than five LEAs establishing qualified programs. Requires DOE to study the impact of the pilot program and to report its findings to the Education Committees of the House of Representatives and Senate by March 1, 2023.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures – \$587,000/Each FY19-20 through FY21-22**

Assumptions:

- Voluntary pre-K programs are currently funded through appropriations and DOE identifies \$86,526,000 in state funds available annually for early childhood education.
- There are 138 LEAs that participate in the VPK program and DOE budgets \$117,400 for each classroom.
- Assuming each grant to an LEA under this proposed pilot program is similar to funding budgeted for a VPK classroom, it is estimated that approximately \$1,761,000 (\$117,400 x 5 awarded LEAs x 3 years) will be required to fund such grants for alternative VPK programs for the entire three-year period.
- Using a portion of existing VPK funding for this pilot program will result in an increase in state expenditures in order to replace funding currently budgeted for existing VPK programs.
- It is assumed that any appropriated grant funds would be utilized equally over the three-year pilot. As a result, the increase in state expenditures from the General Fund is estimated to be \$587,000 (\$117,400 x 5 grants) in each FY19-20, FY20-21, and FY21-22.

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**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/alh